

Seeing Jesus in the Passover

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Palm Sunday Apr 10th

On Palm Sunday Jesus presented himself to Israel, who heralded Him as their King. (See Zech. 9:9; and John 12:12-19) John 12:15 *"behold, thy King cometh, sitting on an ass's colt."* This "Passion week" that started with such hope, ended with disillusionment and Horror! Before the week's end Israel is invited to "Behold thy King" in Jn 19:14: Jn 19:14 *"it was the preparation of the passover: and he (Pilate) saith unto the Jews, Behold your King!"* They responded in vs 15 *"Crucify Him!"* Jesus was aware that this would happen and even referred to it on Palm Sunday in Jn 12:23-28. I find it interesting the John's gospel skips from Palm Sunday to the Passover meal and spends 6 chapters discussing the events of that night. The Passover was the first of 7 Feasts that God commanded Israel to observe (See Lev. 23) It commemorated God's delivering Israel through the blood of the "Passover Lamb".

Jesus revealed in Luke 22:15 *"With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer"* Then he explains the significance of the Passover and implements the "Lord's Supper".

Passover Overview from: Ex. 12

1. Choose a lamb on 10th day. (Vs 3,6)

A. Watch it for 4 days to ensure it was "spotless" (Healthy and Pure) vs 6

B. Jn 1:29,36 identifies Jesus as: *"The lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world"*

He was often pictured as *"as a lamb without blemish and spot."* 1Pt 1:18

(Rev. 5:6; 7:17; 14:10; 15:3; 19:9; 21:22, 23; 22:1,2)

1) He asked the Jews: *"which of you convinceth me of sin?"* Jn 8:46

2) Even Pilate said 3x: *"I find no fault in him"* Jn 18:38 19:4, 6

2. Remove all leaven from the home. (7 days) (vs 15)

A. This begins the feast of "Unleavened Bread".

B. Leaven is symbolic of sin! (1 Cor. 5:7) *"A little leaven leaveneth the lump."*

3. Kill the lamb and apply the blood. (Vs 7) *"take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses"* vs 46 *"neither shall ye break a bone thereof."*

1 Cor 5:7 *"Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:"*

Jn 19:33-37 *"they brake not his legs: But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side..."*

That the scripture should be fulfilled, a bone shall not be broken

and again they shall look on him whom they pierced." (Ps. 22:14; Zech. 13:6; Is. 53)

4. Eat roasted with "bitter herbs". (Vs 8) *Reminder of the bitterness of slavery.*

Jn 12:27-28 *"Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour. Father, glorify thy name.!"*

5. Spring Feasts Concluded with the Feast of First fruits.

First Sunday after Passover Sabbath. (Lev. 23:9-14) This occurred Easter Sunday!

1 Cor. 15:20, 23 *"Christ (is) risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. .."*

6. 50 days later they celebrated Pentecost. Lev. 23:15,16 (Harvest: see Acts 2)

With the destruction of the Temple, the Passover has changed and is now Celebrated according to the Haggadah!

1. Seder Begins with a Ceremonial Cleansing! Ex. 12:15

A. Clean house to remove any leaven. (hametz) Ex. 12:15 (Spring Cleaning!)

1) Everyone gets involved. (Uses a B'dikath Chametz {Feather, spoon, candle})

1 Cor 11:28 *"Let a man examine himself, so let him eat..."*

B. Ceremonial Washing of Hands. Jesus actually washed their feet! (Jn 13:1-7)

C. Lighting of the candles. (The mother would do this. Gen. 3:15)

Jn 8:12; 9:5 *"I am the light of the world"*

2. The Passover involves three separate "matzahs" (Unleavened Bread)

A. The Matzah is always pierced and stripped! Is. 53:5,6 *"He was wounded for our transgressions..."*

B. During the Passover, the leader removes the middle "Matzah" from the bag, breaks it in half and places in a linen cloth. (Called the Afikomen)

C. Then the "Afikomen" is hidden.

a) The kids try to find the "Afikomen" and the one who does receives a redemption reward.

b) The Afikomen is then divided and eaten. (symbolizing the Passover Lamb)

Jesus is the "Afikomen" whose body is broken, wrapped in linen and "hidden."

"Take, eat, this is my body which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me." 1 Cor. 11:24 (Lk 22:19)

3. There're 4 times that wine or grape juice is received during the Passover.

A. Each corresponds to one of the "I Will" statements in Ex 6:6,7

1) Cup of Sanctification: (qadash) *"I will bring you out from under the Burdens of the Egyptians."* vs 6
They read Ps. 114 together.

2) Cup of Praise: (After the Exodus story) *"I will rid you out of their bondage."* Vs 6

3) Cup of Redemption: (After the Afikomen is found!) vs. 6b

"I will redeem you with... great judgments" This is the cup Jesus used when He said:

"This cup is the new testament in my Blood, which is shed for you." (Luke 22:20)

NOTE: Haggadah includes "The cup of Elijah" based on Mal. 4:5 (See Mt 17:10-13)

4) The Last Cup is the "Cup of Anticipation". Ex. 6:7,8 *"I will take you to me for a people..."*

They read Ps 118:21-26; and Ps. 126 Jews conclude every Passover with this toast:

"Next Year in Jerusalem!" In anticipation of the Messiah's Kingdom.

Mt 26:29 *"I will not drink henceforth, until ... I drink it new with you in my Father's Kingdom!"*

Conclusion: Jesus transformed the Jewish Passover Into "The Lord's Supper" or Communion.

Lk 22:19,20 *"This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. This cup is the ew testament in my blood, which is shed for you."*

1 Cor 10:16 *"The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?"*

Koinōnia: Fellowship, Communion, From Koinonos: Partnership

What was the result of failing to follow God's directions on that first Passover? Ex 12:13

Jesus' sacrifice made "communion" (Freedom, Fellowship, Partnership) Possible. Eph 1:6-7

Has his blood been applied to "door" of your heart?

Are you taking his Grace for Granted? 1 Cor 5:6-8

Are you walking in "communion" (Fellowship) with Him? 1 Jn 1:6-9